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October 25, 2005

Chairman Kevin Martin
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary



**In the Matter of: Nomination for Universal Service Administrator's Board of Directors,
CC Docket Nos. 97-21 and 96-45**

*Excellence and Equity
in Public Education
through School Board
Leadership*

Dear Chairman Martin:

On behalf of the National School Boards Association (NSBA), I am writing to recommend Dr. Brian Talbott's reappointment as Chairman of the Universal Administrative Service Company (USAC) Board of Directors. As a Board representative for schools that are eligible to receive discounts for telecommunications services, Dr. Talbott has firsthand experience in the creation of the E-Rate program as a Universal Service Fund support mechanism.

Office of Advocacy

- Joan E. Schmidt
President
- Anne L. Bryant
Executive Director
- Michael A. Resnick
Associate
Executive Director

As both a practitioner and expert in education technology, Dr. Talbott's knowledge and leadership are invaluable assets to the Universal Service program. As executive director of the Association of Educational Service Agencies (AESAs), Dr. Talbott has a direct rapport with both applicants and service providers of the E-Rate program. In addition, he has managed the largest educational telecommunications network in the nation while serving as superintendent of Educational Service District 101, encompassing 59 public school districts and 54 private schools in Washington State.

Dr. Talbott's insight into the grassroots implementation of E-Rate and his current leadership as Chairman of USAC's Board of Directors have helped to strengthen the program and to increase outreach efforts to schools and libraries in order to maximize resources and ensure efficiency. Dr. Talbott is not only a dedicated leader in advancing educational opportunities for our nation's students; he is a trailblazer in the advent of technology in curriculum development and classroom instruction, which are greatly beneficial to student achievement.

NSBA strongly supports the reappointment of Dr. Talbott to the Universal Service Administrative Company Board of Directors. His service on the USAC Board will help provide the continuity and leadership needed to ensure the integrity and continued success of the Universal Service Fund and E-Rate program.

A copy of Dr. Talbott's professional biography is attached.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Dr. Anne L. Bryant
Executive Director

ALB/dr:sjh
n:Adv/TalbottUSAC/10.25.05

Attachment

No. of Copies rec'd 044
List A B C D E

National School Boards Association

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Brian L. Talbott
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Chewelah, WA 99109
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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 1997 to Present Executive Director of the Association of Educational Service Agencies (AESA), Arlington, Virginia**
AESA is a professional association for educational service agencies (ESAs) which represents 551 ESAs in 44 states. The mission of AESA is to serve as the national voice for educational services agencies and to support learning, technical assistance, advocacy, and research for the membership.
- 1982-1998 Superintendent and General Manager STEP•Star Network, Educational Service District 101, Spokane, Washington**
ESD 101 serves the largest geographic region in Washington State and provides service to 59 local public school districts, 54 private schools, and their respective boards. Responsible for oversight of the largest educational telecommunications network in the nation, coordinating and conducting programs in response to the needs of the educational community, assisting in equalizing educational opportunities and serving as a liaison between local schools and the Office of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction.
- 1976-1982 Superintendent, Educational Service District 105, Yakima, Washington**
Provide services to 25 local public school districts, 17 private schools, and their respective boards. Represent and provide liaison services between local districts and federal and state education agencies. Full responsibility for management of the educational service district.
- 1975-1976 Instructor: Graduate and Undergraduate Courses University of Idaho, Moscow, Idaho**
Administer student-aid teaching program. Coordinate needs assessment activities and curriculum development projects between local school districts and the university. Instruct in graduate level teacher education program.
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- 1972-1975** **Superintendent, Granger School District, Granger, Washington**
Full responsibility for all educational programs in a multi-ethnic, multilingual community. Responsibility for modernization of facilities and extensive state and federal programs.
- 1969-1972** **Principal, Granger High School, Granger, Washington**
Full responsibility for building-level management. Extensive involvement in student/community projects.
- 1968-1969** **Vice Principal, Marysville High School, Marysville, Washington**
Coordinator of building curriculum committee; responsible for student discipline and teacher performance.
- 1965-1968** **Secondary Teacher, Marysville School District, Marysville, Washington**
Reading, Social Studies, Language Arts, and coaching responsibilities.

EDUCATION

- 1976** Doctor of Philosophy in Educational Administration and Research. College of Education, University of Idaho, Moscow, Idaho.
- 1968** Master of Arts in Educational Administration. Department of Education, Seattle University, Seattle, Washington.
- 1965** Bachelor of Arts in Secondary Education. Department of Education, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington.

CERTIFICATIONS

Superintendent, Principal, Teacher

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Association of Educational Service Agencies—Past Council Member and Past President

Reading is Fundamental (RFNet) – Advisory Board Member and Vice-Chairman

United States Distance Learning Association – Past Board Member

Washington State Department of Information Services Technology
Policy and Review Committee—Past Member

KYVE Public Television Station – Past Board Member and
Chairman

Washington State School Information Processing Cooperative
Executive Board— Past Member and Chairman

National Telecommunications Organization—Past Executive Board
Member

Alaska State Satellite Interconnection Planning Committee—Past
Member

Washington State University Professional Education Advisory
Board for Administration—Past Chairman

Washington State Rural Education Center—Past Executive Board
Member

Gonzaga Professional Education Advisory Board for
Superintendents—Past Chairman

Northeast Washington Association of School Administrators Past
Executive Board—Member

Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory—Past Executive Board
Member

Southwest Regional Laboratory National Telecommunications—
Expert Panel Member

Spokane Child Sexual Abuse Council—Past Member

State Superintendent of Public Instruction and the Council for Post-
Secondary Education Joint Study Task Force—Past Member

AWARDS AND HONORS

Washington Association of School Administrators Golden Gavel
Award, 1998

Washington Association of School Administrators State Leadership
Award, 1996

National Association of Educational Office Professionals National Educational Administrator of the Year, 1994/1995

Washington State University, Cougar Leadership Award, 1994

University of Idaho College of Education Outstanding Educator Award, October 1991

Washington Association of Educational Personnel, 1990 Educational Administrator of the Year

University of Idaho, College of Education, one of ten distinguished alumni, Centennial Commencement Celebration, 1989

Panorama Region (Stevens, Ferry, Pend Oreille counties) 1989/1990 Educator of the Year[

Washington State University, College of Education Dean's Award, 1985

Washington Association of School Administrators Distinguished Leadership Award, 1982

PUBLICATIONS

D. Hanna & C. Lutchen. *"Leadership and Management in Open and Flexible Learning"*, book commissioned by Kogn Page, London. 2001 contributed the chapter *"Leading Learning in the Expanded K-12 Class Room."*

Talbott, Brian L. *The Relationship Between Oral Language Proficiency and Achievement in a Bilingual-Bicultural Elementary School: Doctoral Dissertation*. University of Idaho, Moscow, Idaho (1976)

Bell, Thomas O.; Doyle, Vincent; and Talbott, Brian L. *Review Essay: The Mat-Sea-Cal Oral Proficiency Tests*. The Modern Language Journal (1977)

Talbott, Brian L. *Assessment: Where Do We Go From Here????* Washington State School Directors Compass, July/August (1977)

Holmes, Nancy and Talbott, Brian L. *Enhancing Quality Education in Rural Washington Schools*. Curriculum in Context, Vol. 13, Issue 1, Spring/Summer (1985)

Talbott, Brian L. *Classroom in the Sky*. Curriculum in Context, Vol. 115, Issue 1, Spring/Summer (1987)

Talbott, Brian L. *Stretching Limited Dollars: Finding Money For Your Distance Learning Program*. SAT-LINK, December Issue (1994)

Talbott, Brian L. *ESA Cost-Effectiveness Document in Washington Study*. Perspectives, a Journal of Research and Opinion about Educational Service Agencies (1995)

Miller, Wallace G.; Putnam, Carl; Schultheis, Leigh; and Talbott, Brian L. *The Sky's the Limit*. The American School Board Journal, March Issue (1992).

10.19.05